## NEBRASKA SUPREME COURT



## Office of Public Information

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Lancaster County Court Eliminates Courtroom Wait for Individuals Wanting to Pay Citation Fines**

In an effort to provide more efficient services to the public, the Lancaster County Court is eliminating courtroom waiting time for individuals who receive traffic tickets with an option to pay a fine.

Individuals who receive "waiverable" traffic citations (tickets that can be taken care of by paying a fine), can now report to the Clerk of the County Court rather than waiting in a courtroom for their name to be called. Cashiers in the clerk's office can collect the fine amount in full or make arrangements to have the fine paid in regular installments over a period of time. If the ticket recipient would like to plead 'not guilty' the Clerk can set a time and date for a hearing. This process eliminates the time that individuals sit in the courtroom waiting to talk with a judge prior to paying a ticket. Any individual who chooses to go before a judge will be able to do so by notifying counter personnel.

As of the first of this month, no ticket in Lancaster County will contain courtroom information. All courtroom scheduling and locations are found on the second floor television monitors in the Hall of Justice.

Tickets with a notice on the bottom that the citation is 'waiverable' should be brought to the Clerk of the County Court or may be paid without a court appearance.

A waiverable ticket may be paid through the mail or by using the Court's online ePayment system developed in 2007. The ePayment system offers individuals a secure online location to pay tickets when a court appearance is not required. Individuals can log onto the Judicial Branch Web site, www.supremecourt.ne.gov, and click on the ePayments button. Users of ePayment can pay their citations using Visa, MasterCard or debit cards with the Visa or MasterCard logos. Users are assessed a transaction fee by the vendor.